



## What others are saying about Red Mountain AVA

### ■ Washington Wine Commission

Info on Red Mountain Appellation:

[www.washingtonwine.org/appel.cfm](http://www.washingtonwine.org/appel.cfm)

**RED MOUNTAIN** — established in 2001

Located at the east end of the Yakima Valley; currently has 10 wineries. ■ 4,040 acres (1,635 hectares) situated between Benton City and Richland. ■ More than 710 vineyard acres (287 hectares) currently planted. ■ Best known for producing red varietals, Red Mountain is widely planted to Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Syrah and Sangiovese. ■ Good air, drainage and light soils encourage the vines to seek nutrients via deep roots. ■ Irrigated vineyards allow growers to control vine vigor and ease vines into dormancy before winter. Growing season averages 180 days with rainfall from 6 to 8 inches (15-20 cm) annually. ■ Red Mountain is located within the larger Yakima Valley, at its easternmost tip.

### ■ TriCities visitor guide

[www.visittri-cities.com/wineguide.shtml](http://www.visittri-cities.com/wineguide.shtml)

Includes the following on Red Mountain:

#### **RED MOUNTAIN — WASHINGTON'S FINEST RED-WINE APPELLATION**

More award-winning wines have been made from Red Mountain cabernet sauvignon and merlot grapes than from any other region in Washington. An almost magical combination of soil and climate makes Red Mountain fruit unique from grapes grown elsewhere in the state. In fact, the Red Mountain region has become well-recognized as perhaps the single best terroir yet developed—and was recognized in 2001 as Washington's smallest (and most select) American Viticultural Area (AVA) or approved appellation. Located just outside Richland, the slopes of Red Mountain face west toward Yakima and south toward the Columbia River Gorge. Cooler air from the Columbia Gorge pushes into the warmer Yakima Valley near Red Mountain, cooling hot days into brisk nights and helping maintain balanced acids as the grapes ripen. These growing conditions create a nearly ideal micro-climate for the development of big, yet balanced wines. Red Mountain's inaugural red was Lemberger, an experimental German variety, introduced by Kiona Vineyards. This was the first Lemberger released in the Northwest and the wine was an immediate and continued hit. Red Mountain Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot, however, soon became the benchmarks for these varietals in Washington—offering big, intense fruit with high amounts of natural tannins and acids.

### ■ NW Wine Press

Plans to widen Red Mountain irrigation a boon to wine country

[www.winepressnw.com/news/story/6371380p-6249352c.html](http://www.winepressnw.com/news/story/6371380p-6249352c.html)

*Talks about plans for development, includes same appellation facts listed above from Wine Commission website*

## ■ Wine Business Online

[www.winebusiness.com/FinanceAdministration/webarticle.cfm?AID=99376&ISSUEID=99369](http://www.winebusiness.com/FinanceAdministration/webarticle.cfm?AID=99376&ISSUEID=99369)

"Things are going to change on Red Mountain," said Holmes, who has been spearheading the effort by growers, wineries, and state and local officials to turn the area into a viticultural tourist destination.

## ■ Wines Northwest

[www.winesnw.com/news\\_reviews/archive\\_redmtnarchive.htm](http://www.winesnw.com/news_reviews/archive_redmtnarchive.htm)

### "Red Mountain People"

by Susan O'Hara

*Talks about history of wine grape growing on Red Mountain.*

Includes the following:

#### The Vineyards

Red Mountain is home to many of the state's most prestigious grape growers such as Klipsun Vineyards, Ciel de Cheval Vineyards, [Hedges Vineyards](#), Red Mountain Vineyards (RMV), Kiona Vineyards, Artz Vineyards, and Tapeil Vineyards. These vineyards sell their fruit to some of the state's most celebrated wineries such as [Bookwalter](#), Barnard Griffin, Soos Creek Cellars, Quilceda Creek, Andrew Will, [Woodward Canyon](#), [L'Ecole No41](#), DeLille Cellars, Matthews Cellars, McCrea Cellars, Washington Hills (Apex, Bridgman), Waterbrook, Seven Hills Winery, and [Canoe Ridge](#).

#### On Red Mountain Terroir

"In fact, some say Red Mountain Appellation has it all: slope, exposure, weather conditions, good air drainage, large swings between day and night temperatures, six wineries within a few miles, plenty of undeveloped land, gravelly soil with high calcium carbonate content and high pH (high alkalinity), both contributing flavor to grapes grown here. Sloping lands beneath the broad Red Mountain lie at the southeast end of the Yakima Valley, overlooking Benton City, where annual rainfall is only about six inches, and supplemental irrigation is usually provided a few months into the growing season. Wines made from Red Mountain fruit express the terroir with great strength and richness, while demonstrating exceptional balance of fruit, acidity, and tannin. "

## ■ Hedges Vineyard

[www.hedgescellars.com](http://www.hedgescellars.com)

"Considered by many to be the best red grape growing site in Washington State, Red Mountain is characterized by producing reds that have an intense deep color, concentrated aromas, and surprising richness, balance, strength and age worthiness.